



Alberta Lacrosse Association

Enhance character, community, and culture through lacrosse.

September 2024

Director of Development – Season End Report

This was the third season of the WRLL, and I think our best one yet, the teams and clubs are starting to understand the slight differences between minor lacrosse and us trying to emulate major lacrosse for the U17 age group. This was the second season with the expanded playoffs format, a best of 3 series was held for the divisional finals and provincials in 2024. The Calgary Hoks won the league final over the SWAT this season with a 2-game sweep at Provincials. We had one centralized website for the league by linking the GELC and CDLA Ramps sites. We didn't have too many issues with teams uploading scores this season in a timely fashion. One team in the north did struggle with affiliations this year as the GELC had an internal affiliation regulation that was new for 2024 that was not quite aligned with what I would like to see for the WRLL teams.

There does seem to be some discussion about a WRLL league for U15, I'm not sure if this is a good idea, one of the largest issue the U17 have is tournaments, some teams feel they are limited to location of tournaments IE majority are out of province and the limited volume of tournaments they are able to attend, if the U15 joined the WRLL model we will be losing many U15 A tournaments in Alberta similar to what happened with the U17 age group to make the season schedule work.

We did hold our first ALA Indigenous committee meeting on September 19th, 2023, we had a good discussion and get to know each other, we were to have a second meeting in early 2024, but I will be honest I got too busy with other lacrosse items and my actual career, and I didn't follow up with the committee in a timely fashion to set up another meeting. One of our take aways from the initial meeting was to have Stacey Running Rabbit attend our 2023 ALA AGM and do a presentation which she was able to do so, we had great feedback about Stacey's presentation after the AGM and I think we should talk to Stacey about doing something again at this year's AGM.

When approving out of province travel permits this year, I found quite a few teams at all levels are now starting to create what I would call select teams, picking up players from your own club is one thing but adding players from other clubs within the same LGB or from other LGB's teams is too much. This select team trend seems to be the norm now. I know this is very common in the offseason for winter 4 on 4 tournaments, but people now think they can create these select teams in season also. I think we need to review the ALA regulations on this and tighten it up if possible

I was able to attend this year's Provincials hosted by CALL, the weekend was great and well organized. I don't recall any major issues on the weekend that weren't addressed quickly and fairly. Great job to the whole group, that I know spent countless hours preparing for the event and its execution that weekend. You all put on a great weekend!

ALA Director of development

Keith Berg